

Commercial



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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

WILL WORK WITH COMMISSIONER EUSTIS

Postoffice Site Committee Plans An Early Interview With the Official.

Strenuous Efforts to Secure Harmony and a Uniting Upon One Site for the Federal Building.

Public building site work will be resumed today when Commissioner Eustis returns from Hawaii and the committee appointed by Governor Dole has an interview with him. The status of the work is that there must be some expression from the Commissioner before questions affecting the stand which many business men will take can be definitely ascertained.

There have been secured in the attempt to secure unanimity, so that there may be hope for action at this session of Congress, a number of views which indicate that there has been a growing sentiment toward the selection of the King and Bishop street site, and there seems to be a growing opinion that the selection of some such site, where the land can be secured immediately and a clear title, with the opinion of the District Attorney back of it, sent on to Washington, will make for action at the present term of Congress.

The Bishop estate trustees have sent a second letter to Chairman Thurston of the committee, reaffirming their readiness to exchange this ground for other government land, under conditions which make it certain that there will be no delay in the handling of the matter, if the site decided upon is that in question. Some of the opinions of men who have signed the petition to the committee urging that the Bishop street tract be accepted as a compromise are as follows:

I am heartily in accord with the foregoing petition. What Honolulu needs most is a federal building, and her citizens should lend every possible assistance to the federal government in its undertaking.

BRUCE CARTWRIGHT.

I am in favor of the Bishop Estate property, opposite the Alexander Young building as the site for the proposed federal building, on account of its broad area, its open, central and easily accessible position, the possibility of immediate delivery, and the low price asked for it.

W. C. PEACOCK.

I had in contemplation offering my interest in Mahuka, property running from King to Merchant street and opposite the property of Bishop Estate as a possible site for public buildings, but believing the site offered by Bishop Estate the most desirable yet offered, and best calculated to serve the interests of the business community, I cheerfully sign in favor of said site and immediate action.

JOHN EMMELUTH.

Mr. L. A. Thurston, Chairman.
Dear Sir:—Referring to our letter addressed to you under date of 12th inst., with reference to locating a site for the proposed federal buildings, we are moved now in the interest of public harmony, and to lend assistance in simplifying the task before your committee, to withdraw our tender of the Waterhouse property on Hotel street and Adams lane, and to heartily recommend the location offered by the Bishop Estate on King and Bishop streets.

Yours very truly,
HENRY WATERHOUSE TRUST CO.,
LTD.,
By Henry Waterhouse, President.
Dec. 15, 1902.

I have not as yet offered to the committee my property fronting on Fort and Union streets. Should the United States Government desire it for a federal building site, I would sell my property at a low price. However, I am heartily in favor of the proposed Bishop Estate lot, and I firmly believe that the location of a federal building on this site, would be more convenient to the general public, than any site yet offered.

W. WOLTERS.

The location of the federal building on the Bishop Estate lot, directly op-

posite the office of the Commercial Pacific Cable Company, will undoubtedly prove of great benefit to the general public, as has been the case throughout the States.

J. D. GAINES,
Supt. Commercial Pacific Cable Co.

While we appreciate the fact that the location of a federal building opposite a commercial building in cities abroad does not in a general way add business we believe conditions in this respect are vastly different here. Should the citizens of Honolulu decide to locate the federal building on the Bishop Estate lot, we certainly would look upon such an action as an appreciation on their part of our enterprise.

ALEXANDER YOUNG BUILDING
CO., LTD.,
By A. A. Young, Vice President.

As one of those who have favored the Gore lot, facing on Union Square, as the best site for the proposed federal building, to include the postoffice, court rooms and other federal offices, I wish now to express my preference for the site on the corner of King and Bishop streets. I now understand that in negotiating for the Gore block about nine owners or leaseholders will have to be dealt with, some of whom are living on the mainland, thus causing great delay and uncertainty as to the result. The Bishop street site, which is the most centrally located, perhaps, in the business part of the city, has been definitely offered by the Bishop Estate, I understand, at a reasonable figure, and can be obtained at any time. It is situated on the corner of two wide streets, thus giving the opportunity to the federal government to erect a handsome and commodious building that will be an ornament to the city and the pride of the Territory.

WM. W. HALL.

THE PUBLIC AND THE FEDERAL SITE

Letters From the People on the Absorbing Local Theme.

Editor Advertiser:—At the risk of over-talking the subject, a word more about the location of the proposed federal buildings may not be too much.

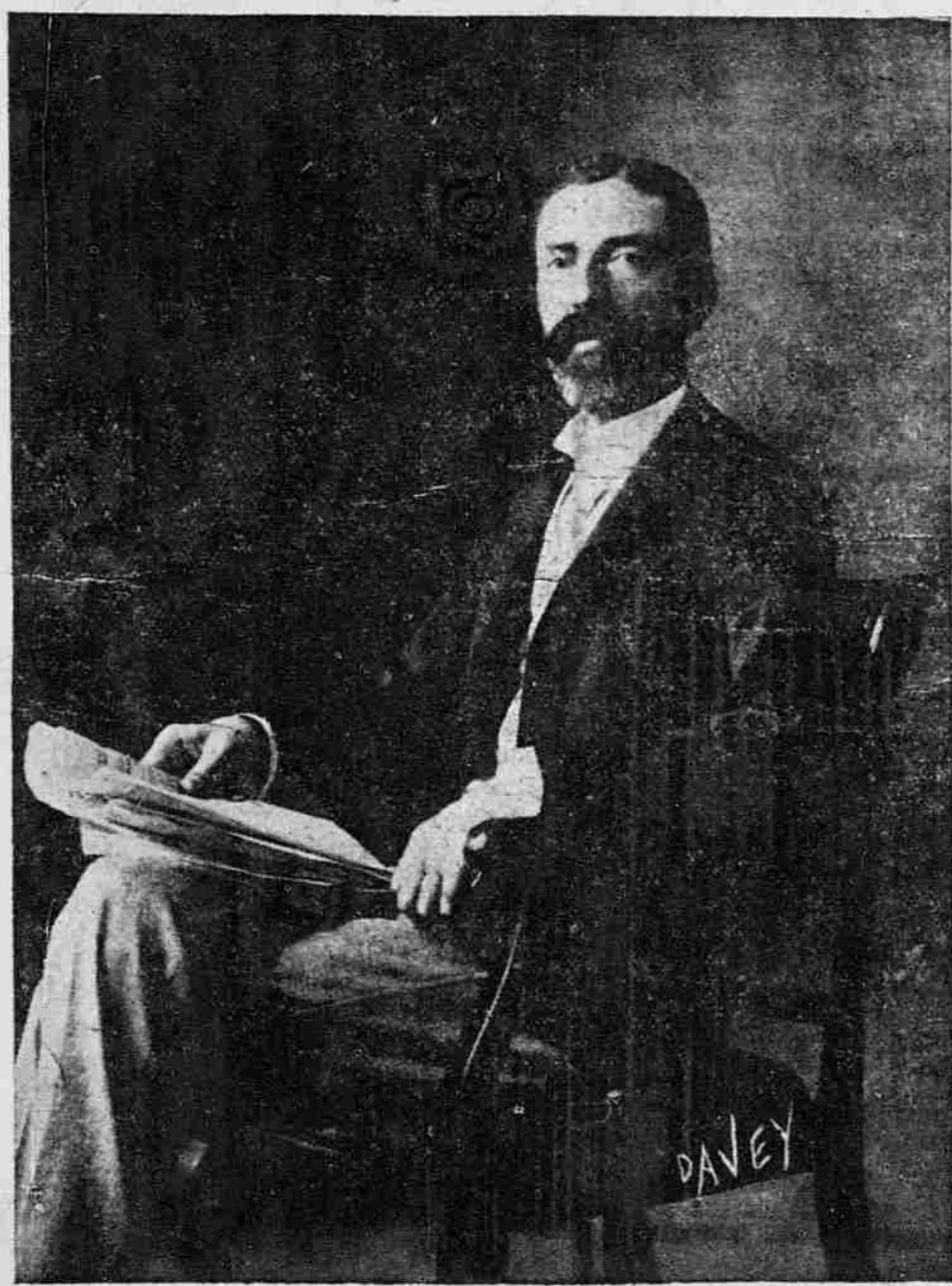
Every citizen who desires the best for our city, who looks forward to the time when it shall be not only a commercial center, but pleasing to the eye and attractive in the best sense, will not regard alone present convenience. No doubt the postoffice where it now stands, partly from location, but in part because we are accustomed to it there, is in the right place for today. But will it always be the right place? From the very nature of things the town will spread towards Diamond Head. King street continues to be the only exit, beyond Liliha, to all of that part of Oahu. Palama and the adjacent country is swampy and must prove very objectionable for all building purposes. The other way invites and the growth of the town will be that way.

We are not well provided with public squares or places around which to group imposing buildings. If such a place exists and other reasons favor its selection, it ought to be chosen. "Palace," or as it is now called, "Union" Place, is just such a spot. The surroundings all favor the development of an ideal center for the public buildings. Several are there today. The Judiciary and Executive buildings and opera house are creditable to the city and make a good beginning.

If all of the premises west of the opera house to Richards and Queen streets could be cleaned of the present raft of buildings and then offered to the United States to purchase, as the site for a federal building, no better place could be secured. There is space for a stately building surrounded with a lawn, cut by converging walks from the streets, with room for the future additions which we like to think will be soon needed. Distance from the streets would be sufficient to avoid, for court rooms, the din and noise they would have in every other site proposed.

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LAND LINE READY FOR DEEP SEA CABLE



S. S. DICKENSON, WHO REPRESENTS THE CABLE COMPANY.

When the Commercial Pacific Cable reaches Honolulu it will be found that everything is in readiness for the making of the connection which will bring the office in the Young building into electric communication with the Hobart building on Market street in San Francisco. The laying of the land cable will be completed today and the splicing will not take more than five days longer.

Although neither Superintendent Gaines nor Manager S. S. Dickenson, who returned from the Orient yesterday, have any specific information on the subject, they believe that the absence of contrary advices in the Doric mail means that the San Francisco end was successfully laid and that the Silvertown commenced the paying out of the connecting strands on Saturday. They maintain that they will expect the ship to arrive off port and drop the cable in the deep sea either Christmas morning or the next day, Friday, and they think the connections will be made within a day or two after that time.

Mr. Dickenson has successfully completed the work which took him to Manila in the cable ship Colonia. The trip consumed until November 14, and during the weeks spent on the water there were a number of soundings made, especially between Midway and Guam. Few soundings were taken between this port and Midway, and the only work of great importance was the discovery of a way around the deep valley which was discovered when the Nero made the soundings, which will furnish the principal data, on which the work will proceed.

The landing place on Midway will be that which was selected by Capt. Pond, when he made the trip of investigation in the tug Iroquois, on what is known as Sand Island. At Guam a suitable place for the cable landing was found near the harbor, which will render the work especially easy of completion. The same is true of the Manila landing, the site selected being easy of access and entirely satisfactory.

Mr. Dickenson said that there were no details of his work which would be given out as the data would be forwarded to San Francisco to the cable officials for their information. The length of cable from this city west will be laid by the Anglia, which will come out as soon as the cable itself has been manufactured by the company which is now at work making it. The work will not be started in all probability until next summer, and the exact date cannot even be guessed.

Mr. Dickenson said: "We made a few soundings between here and Midway and then made a survey of the atoll.

The island is a sandy waste and there are no difficulties connected with the landing of the cable there. The deep hole found by the Nero will be got round, as we found that there is a very fair way to escape the spot. We sounded down to 4,500 fathoms and then discovered a way to pass around the edge of the deep valley and escape the difficulties. I spent eight days in Manila before I could get away, and was not especially pleased with the place.

"I cannot understand the matter of levying a duty on twelve miles of cable from the shore end at San Francisco. If this is done it will be the first time in my experience that such a duty has been charged. Once in Canada a duty was levied but I simply wrote to the Commissioner and he remitted it. The fact is that it seems that the benefits from the cable offset the fact that it is of foreign make, and this has always been the case heretofore. I have been concerned with the laying of seven Atlantic cables which landed in the United States and never before have I encountered such a proceeding. None of the European countries do it and it seems a great mistake to me."

Mr. Dickenson will stay here until the cable has been demonstrated to be in perfect working condition, and all trouble in connection with it has ended.

FOR CABLE DAY.

The joint committee of the Merchants' Association, Chamber of Commerce, Builders and Traders' Exchange and from the government, met yesterday and began the work of getting into shape for the celebration of the arrival of the cable. It was decided that the celebration would take place after the cable had been landed and the connection with the down-town office completed. There will be in all probability a half holiday and the exercises will be of a character which will be attractive to all the people.

The joint body organized by the selection of George W. Smith as chairman and J. P. Cooke as secretary, and got down to business at once. Superintendent of Public Works Cooper tendered to the committee the use of the grounds about the Executive building for the exercises and assured them of the detail of the band for participation in the day's merrymaking. It was decided that there shall be a meeting at which addresses will be made by several persons, who will talk of the cable from the standpoint of the mainland and the islands as well. Henry E. Highton, who was at the meeting in San Francisco when the first message was received over the first successful Atlantic cable, will make an address touching some reminiscences. It is also probable that Commissioner Eustis will talk of the cable from the standpoint of the mainland folk. There will be a response for the cable people, but from whom cannot yet be told. It has been suggested that one of the directors of the company may come from the Coast in the Sierra, arriving on December 24th, and in this event he will be asked to represent the company. If no one comes it is probable that Mr. Dickenson, who has had to do with all

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FORTUNE WILL LOOK AFTER LOCAL LABOR

Special Commissioner Plans Visit to Plantations Here and on Hawaii.

Men Interested in Sugar Do Not Look Kindly Upon Any Further Experiments With Negro Workers.

Special Commissioner T. Thomas Fortune, who is representing the Treasury Department in a study of the labor and sociological conditions in the islands of the Pacific, will begin at once to acquire the data which will furnish his basis for a report upon the needs of Hawaii.

Mr. Fortune spent yesterday in calling upon some old friends and making some new ones, and while he did not begin his work, he will be in shape to start it intelligently as the result of his preliminary talks. He will visit some of the estates and meet practical men here, and, if his plans go through, will leave on Tuesday next for Hawaii, going down by the Kinau and passing over the mountain, visiting the volcano en route, and returning by the Mauna Loa.

Mr. Fortune will be accompanied on this trip by some representative man who will be able to put him in contact with the men who will be the very best sources of information, and he will thus have no trouble in securing just what he wants. He has not decided at all on his little journeys about Oahu, but will be guided largely by the information he receives in meeting men who are interested largely in sugar and who from here can give him much information concerning the entire group.

It is probable that an effort will be made to secure an informal joint meeting of the Chamber of Commerce the Merchants' Association, and the Planters' Association for the purpose of having Mr. Fortune outline his ideas in connection with the advantages of negro labor for field work. This is in no way connected with his mission, but it is rather in line with his work for the past quarter of a century, which has been looking to the uplifting of the race of which he is a representative. His mission is one of investigation, entirely, but he has been for so long devoted to the cause of his people that he will embrace any opportunity to discuss their capacity and adaptability for the climates of the tropics.

Mr. Fortune does not expect to make any report of length before the summer, his work here being, of course, the collection of facts and figures. He will report progress from Honolulu, and will write his report, which will be an elaborate one, after his return to the states, which he expects will be sometime in May, next.

HOW PLANTERS LOOK ON IT.

Men interested in plantations are looking to the future from the lessons of the past, and without exception are of opinion that the introduction of negro laborers would have a decidedly hurtful effect upon the islands, from every point of view. They do not believe that there could be brought here a class of laborers who would be better than those who have been secured in the past, and as a result cannot bring themselves to look upon such a change in the character of the field workers with any degree of complacency. One man put it "a last resort," and this may be taken as the belief of the great majority of the men who are now entrusted with the care of the sugar interests of the islands.

E. D. Tenney, of the firm of Castle & Cooke, does not think there could be any good come from the experiments. He said: "Every attempt which has been made to secure such labor has been a failure and I do not believe the labor is of a character which will suit the conditions. The men secured in the past have not been those who came

to work, and I doubt very much if the real working negroes, from the southern plantations, could be induced to come so far. Personally I should be opposed to the trial of the experiment."

J. A. Gilman, of the same house, said that he did not think it possible to secure the class of labor that the plantations would require for the fields here. He said that every attempt which had been made in the past has been of such a nature that it has discouraged the planters from making any further moves to secure field help from the South. He said that the men who would come so far away were always the undesirable ones.

F. A. Schaefer, of F. A. Schaefer & Company, said he was decidedly opposed to any attempt to fill the fields with negro labor. The principal objection which he would make, he said, was that the negroes could not affiliate with the Hawaiians, and the wishes of the native people in this regard should be consulted to some degree. He said the experiments which had been made were of such a nature that they had produced an ill effect upon the minds of the people in the business, and he would not be in favor of making any attempt to secure such labor.

Henry Waterhouse, of the Henry Waterhouse Trust Company, said that he would not give reasons for his opinion that such an endeavor to make homes for the negroes of the South would be undesirable, other than that the experiments here have been unsuccessful and his opinion, formed while traveling in the States, led him to the belief that it would not be wise to introduce this element into the life of the islands.

Mr. Pfotenauer, of Hackfeld & Company, said that the experiences of the past controlled him in the opinion that there should be no efforts made in this direction, and that he would not favor such an addition to the field labor.

F. W. Macfarlane refused to discuss the matter, other than to say that his opinion had been formed from that of Manager Wells of Walluku, who had in his employ a number of the laborers, and that they had all left or proven entirely unsatisfactory.

W. M. Giffard expressed the opinion that there had never been in twenty-five years, an importation of negro laborers which was satisfactory to the plantations. He said there had been at all times a tendency on the part of the workers to fight, and in one instance when the hands had all disappeared but two brothers, they began to fight between themselves. He said that the negro workers always refused to work with the other laborers of the plantations, and the result was that there was discord. He thought the Hawaiian people would be completely alienated by the bringing in of this element, and that there could be no other result than disorder.

W. O. Smith, the secretary of the Planters' Association, spoke of the negro as a factor in the plantations as he had witnessed the experiments during thirty years past. He said: "I think it was in 1872 that the first attempt to have negroes work on the plantations was made, and then the result was not satisfactory. Since that time there have been many other trials to secure their labor and every time it has been without good results. I greatly doubt that there could be established a number of laborers of this nationality here without great care in selection, the bringing of whole communities with their preachers and other surroundings so that they might build

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